Although possibly the first recorded manned flight occurred over Baltimore in a balloon in 1784, Maryland did not pass its Uniform State Law for Aeronautics until 1927 (Chapter 637, Acts of 1927), followed by the creation of the State Aviation Commission in 1929 (Chapter 318, Acts of 1929). The Commission licensed aviators and airships, set air traffic rules, regulated the construction and operation of airfields, and otherwise conformed to federal regulations. The Commission became an Administration in 1970 when the Department of Transportation was formed and in 1972 took over operation of Friendship International Airport (now BWI) after its purchase by the State. The Administration at that time went from three employees to over two hundred.

Baltimore was a port long before it was a city, but aside from one State official known as the State Wharfinger, in charge of State-owned or leased docks, particularly those adjacent to the State Tobacco Warehouse, Maryland had no State agency to oversee port operations until the Maryland Port Authority was established in 1956 (Chapter 2, Acts of Special Session of 1956). The Authority's prime concern was to keep the port competitive by improving and modernizing its facilities and by promoting it worldwide.

Another twentieth century concern was the development of mass transit. As metropolitan areas grew, private companies were not adequate to the task. The Baltimore Metropolitan Area Mass Transit Legislative Commission studied the problem (Chapter 766, Acts of 1961), resulting in the creation of the Mass Transit Administration in 1969 (Chapter 160, 1969).

State government responded to modern transportation concerns in the twentieth century by creating the State Aviation Commission in 1929, the Maryland Port Authority in 1956, the Mass Transit Administration in 1970, and the State Railroad Administration in 1978.

Under direction of the Secretary, the Department of Transportation oversees the Maryland Transportation Authority and six administrations concerned with State responsibilities for highways, railroads, ports, motor vehicles, mass transit, and aviation. Providing the Secretary with advice, guidance, and direction in a variety of transportation matters are the Maryland Transportation Commission, the Board of Review, the Transportation Professional Services Selection Board, the Board of Airport Zoning Appeals, and the State Roads Commission (Code Transportation Article, secs. 2-101 through 2-103).

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary of Transportation heads the Department. Reporting directly to the Secretary are the Deputy Secretary; the Assistant Secretaries for Management Studies, Administration, and Finance; and three offices: Policy and Program Analysis, Transportation Planning, and Public Transportation Management. The Secretary chairs the Maryland Transportation Authority and the Maryland Port Commission and serves on the Transportation Professional Services Selection Board (Code Transportation Article, sec. 2-102).

The Department of Transportation administers the State Highway Safety Program and the Secretary of Transportation is the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. The Governor's powers and authority for the Program have been redelegated by the Secretary to the Office of Transportation Planning (Code Transportation Article, secs. 2-401 through 2-409).

MARYLAND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

David L. Winstead, Chairperson, 1991

Appointed by Governor (who also designates chair) with advice of Secretary of Transportation: Horace T. Alston, 1989; Louis R. O'Neill, 1990; Dorothy

H. Streaker, 1990; Alvin Akman, 1991; Raymond E. Keeney, 1991; Patrick P. O'Malley, 1991; John H. Mosner, Jr., 1992; Ronald N. Young, 1993; one vacancy.

Ex officio (Regional Commissioners of State Roads Commission): Jack Luskin, 1992; Thomas N. Marudas, 1992; C. Robert Morrison, 1992; Thomas G. Barton, 1993; Garner W. Duvall, 1993; W. Earl Griffin, 1993; Werner L. Gruber, Jr., 1993.

Julianne Stoll, Secretary

P.O. Box 8755 BWI Airport, MD 21240

859-7260

Formed in 1970, the Maryland Transportation Commission studies the entire State transportation system (Chapter 526, Acts of 1970). It advises the Secretary of Transportation and Department administrators on policy and programs.

The Commission has seventeen members. Ten are appointed for three-year terms by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary of Transportation. The seven regional members of the State Roads Commission serve ex officio. The Governor designates the chairperson (Code Transportation Article, secs. 2-201 through 2-205).